

## Team Crackpot Hang with the Ruskies!

Written by Dave Howard

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Been playing around with the New Flip HD camera. [Here are some early round clips.](#)

But first BIG Cinderella news, rookie team [Hagglund](#) / [Ross](#) ,ranked 64, scored 4 unanswered to start off against EY and Nicole Branagh. They have a combined age of 33, keep an eye on these two.

So, any kind of upset pick I made is squashed. Good thing there isn't a line (yet) on Pro Beach Volleyball. If there was, a guy named Johnny Pliers would be at my door right now.



Turns out Team Crackpot (Jen Kessy and April Ross) have been kicking so much international ass that have decided to choose the [FIVB's Moscow Tourney rather than the Manhattan beach.](#)

Hijacked along with them are Angie Akers/Tyra Turner and Lauren Fendrick/Ashley Ivy. Turns out to be a good 2012 move for two of the three.

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However, this does set the stage for a Nicole Branagh/Elaine Youngs plaque ceremony in Manhattan Beach. With few exceptions the MB tourney is falling in to line predictably.

There has been one big surprise in the contenders bracket, [Jackson](#) / [Ursillo](#) ranked 62 (out of 64) cane back and took out #32

[Brinkman](#)

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[Hamilton](#)

after dropping the first game 11-21. In the "Pretty Face or Prime Athlete" category the sister team of

[Machado](#)

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[Machado](#)

showed some promise and fight despite their early elimination. Let's see what happens.

I spotted Kerri Walsh and Rachel Wacholder driving away from the tourney about 10:00 Friday AM in their bikinis. I guess they had just had another practice. Rachel must have some pretty strong seatbelts to keep Kerri from running down to the beach and joining in. Kerri has been itching to get back into it, so I guess they were better not even getting close.

Also, the AVP has bowed to my demands. When they started charging admission a few years ago, [I knew they would be shooting themselves](#) in the foot for MB and Hermosa. Yup, it's free now. The recession has been rearing it's ugly head at MB with a dramatic cut in village sponsorship tents.

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